

1 **Amendments to the Claims:**

2 This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

3 Listing of Claims:

1 1 (currently amended): A device for applying a magnetic field to a microtiter
2 plate, said device comprising:

3 a substrate; and

4 a plurality of magnetic elements disposed on said substrate, wherein said plurality
5 of magnetic elements are arranged parallel to each other such that the centerline longitudinal axis
6 of each magnetic element is approximately centered directly under an entire a row or column of
7 wells of a microtiter plate when said microtiter plate is positioned upon the device.

1 2 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein said substrate is comprised of a
2 material selected from the group consisting of polymers, plastics, pyrex, quartz, resins, silicon,
3 silica, silica-based materials, carbon, metals, inorganic glass and combinations thereof.

1 3 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein said substrate is comprised of a
2 material selected from the group consisting of organic, inorganic, biological, nonbiological
3 materials and combinations thereof.

1 4 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein said substrate is substantially disc-
2 shaped, square-shaped, rectangle-shaped or combinations thereof.

1 5 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein said substrate has substantially the
2 same shape and size as said microtiter plate.

1 6 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein the device comprises one magnetic
2 element for each column of wells of the microtiter plate.

1 7 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein the device comprises twenty-four
2 magnetic elements and the longitudinal axis of each element is approximately centered under a
3 column of wells of a 384-well microtiter plate.

1 8 (original): The device of claim 6, wherein each magnetic element is
2 approximately the same length of a column of wells of the microtiter plate.

1 9 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein the device comprises one magnetic
2 element for each row of wells of the microtiter plate.

1 10 (original): The device of claim 9, wherein the device comprises sixteen
2 magnetic elements and the longitudinal axis of each element is approximately centered under a
3 row of wells of a 384-well microtiter plate.

1 11 (original): The device of claim 9, wherein each magnetic element is
2 approximately the same length of a row of wells of the microtiter plate.

1 12 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein adjacent magnetic elements are in
2 contact with each other.

1 13 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein adjacent magnetic elements are
2 separated from one another by a non-magnetic material.

1 14 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein each magnetic element is
2 approximately as wide as the diameter of a well of the microtiter plate.

1 15 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein the device does not include a
2 mechanism for horizontal circular translation of the microtiter plate.

1 16 (original): The device of claim 1, wherein the device further comprises a
2 microtiter plate positioned upon the magnetic elements.

1 17 (original): The device of claim 16, wherein one or more wells of the
2 microtiter plate contains a suspension of magnetic particles.

1 18 (original): The device of claim 17, wherein the suspension comprises
2 immunoassay reagents.

1 19 (original): The device of claim 17, wherein the suspension comprises a
2 primer extension reaction.

1 20 (original): The device of claim 19, wherein the primer extension reaction is a
2 DNA sequencing reaction.

1 21 (original): The device of claim 19, wherein the suspension comprises dye-
2 labeled molecules and a polymer into which dye-labeled molecules are incorporated, and
3 particles that comprise a paramagnetic moiety and a porous hydrophobic material entrapped
4 within a hydrophilic matrix.

22-25 (canceled)

1 26 (new): The device of claim 1, wherein each of said magnetic elements is
2 configured to form a magnetic field having a strength greater than approximately twelve Kgauss.